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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/674,840	09/30/2003	Barrett Morris Kreiner	BS030144 (03-BS020)	4460
7590 Scott P. Zimmerman P.O. Box 3822 Cary, NC 27519		06/18/2007	EXAMINER ZHAO, DAQUAN	
			ART UNIT 2621	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 06/18/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/674,840	Applicant(s) KREINER ET AL.	
	Examiner Daquan Zhao	Art Unit 2621	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 9/30/2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 9/30/2007 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1/16/2004; 9/13/2007</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: page 2, paragraph [0002] and [0003], application numbers for the co-pending application are missing. Appropriate correction is required.

Double Patenting

2. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

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3. Claims 1-9,11-14 and 18-19 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 16, 18, 19, 20 of copending Application No. 10/674,995 (It will be referred as #995) and further in view of Fiore et al (US 2002/0,191,952 A1). Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because

Claims 1 and 18 of the instant application are drawn to a video recorder, comprising a memory for storing at least one of i) video data of an event and ii) audio data of the event (e.g. claims 1 and 11, and 18 of #995 teach a memory for storing at least one of i) video data of an event and ii) audio data of the event), a set of rules stored in the memory, the set of rules specifying at least one of i) multiple regions of interest within a single picture frame and ii) multiple regions of disinterest within the single picture frame (e.g. claims 11 and 18 of #995 teach a set of rules stored in the memory, the set of rules specifying at least one of i) multiple regions of interest within a single picture frame and ii) multiple regions of disinterest within the single picture frame), the set of rules dynamically varying a bit rate of the video data associated with each region of interest and with each region of disinterest, wherein the video data is stored in the memory according to the bit rate specified by the set of rules (e.g. claims 18, 20 teach the set of rules dynamically varying a bit rate of the video data associated with each region of interest and with each region of disinterest, wherein the video data is stored in the memory according to the bit rate specified by the set of rules); a loop buffer also storing at least one of the audio data and the video data of the event, the

loop buffer also storing at least one of time-delayed audio data and time-delayed video data that precedes the event (e.g. claim 1, 11 and 18 of #995 teach a loop buffer also storing at least one of the audio data and the video data of the event, the loop buffer also storing at least one of time-delayed audio data and time-delayed video data that precedes the event). However, #995 fail to specify a processor communicating with memory and the video recorder provides both real-time and time-delay audio data and video data of the event. Fiore et al teach a video recorder, comprising a processor communicating with memory (e.g. paragraph [0048], event processor for extracting video frames stored in file system 17), wherein the video recorder provides both real-time and time-delayed audio data and video data of the event (e.g. paragraph [0043], figure 2, monitoring device 6 is an monitoring sensors captures real-time video and audio data, and the circular storage provides a time-delayed audio and video data).

Claims 18 and 20 of #995 encompass all the limitation of claim 2 and 3 of the instant application.

Claims 1, 11, and 18 of #995 encompass all the limitation of claims 4, 5 and 6 of the instant application.

Claims 2, 12 or 19 of #995 encompass all the limitation of claim 7 of the instant application.

Claim 3 of #995 encompass all the limitation of claim 8 of the instant application.

Claims 4 or 12 of #995 encompass all the limitation of claim 9 of the instant application.

Claim 5 of #995 encompasses all the limitation of claim 11 of the instant application.

Claim 10 of #995 encompass all the limitation of claims 12 and 13 of the instant application.

Claim 6 of #995 encompass all the limitation of claims 14 of the instant application.

Claims 6 or 16 of #995 encompass all the limitation of claims 19 of the instant application.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

4. Claim 10 provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 16, 18, 19, 20 of copending Application No. 10/674,995 (It will be referred as #995) and Fiore et al (US 2002/0,191,952 A1) as applied to claims 1-9,11-14 and 18-19 of the instant application above. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because

Regarding claim 10, #995 and Fiore et al fail to teach a memory card. The examiner takes official notice for the memory card since it is well known in the art. It would have been obvious for one ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have utilized memory card in the system of #995 and Fiore et al to increase the storage capacity.

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

5. Claims 15-17 provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 16, 18, 19, 20 of copending Application No. 10/674,995 (It will be referred as #995) and Fiore et al (US 2002/0,191,952 A1) as applied to claims 1-9, 11-14 and 18-19 of the instant application above, and further in view of Chow et al (US 2002/0,069,317 A1). Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because

Regarding claims 15, 16 and 19, #995 and Fiore et al fail to teach tags the video data with metadata, the metadata providing a description of a rule that caused the video data to be stored in the memory. Chow et al teach tags the video data with metadata, the metadata providing a description of a rule that caused the video data to be stored in the memory (e.g. paragraph [0133]). It would have been obvious for one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Chow et al into the teaching of #995 and Fiore et al to allow fast real-time data recording (Chow et al, paragraph [0133]).

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

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6. Claim 20 provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 16, 18, 19, 20 of copending Application No. 10/674,995 (It will be referred as #995) and Fiore et al (US 2002/0,191,952 A1) as applied to claims 1-9,11-14 and 18-19 of the instant application above, and further in view of Nishioka et al (US 6,785,905 B1).. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because

Regarding claim 20, #995 and Fiore et al fail to teach a user interface for configuring the video recorder. Nishioka et al teach a user interface for configuring the video recorder (e.g. column 6, lines 17-21). It would have been obvious for one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Nishioka et al into the teaching of #995 and Fiore et al to allow users to find and add choose desired programs in fast and reliable manner (e.g. Nishioka et al, column 1, lines 41-47).

This is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 1-7, 12-14, 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fiore et al (US 2002/0,191,952 A1), in view of Krishnamurthy et al (US 6,496,607 B1).

Regarding claim 1, Fiore et al teach a video recorder, comprising a processor communicating with memory, the memory for storing at least one of i) video data of an event and ii) (e.g. paragraph [0048], event processor for extracting video frames stored in file system 17), audio data of the event the video data (e.g. paragraph [0046], sudden change in audio signal amplitude corresponds to the audio event, and change in brightness or contrast in video signal corresponds to video event) comprising a series of picture frames; However, Fiore et al fail to teach a set of rules stored in the memory, the set of rules specifying at least one of i) multiple regions of interest within a single picture frame and ii) multiple regions of disinterest within the single picture frame, the set of rules dynamically varying a bitrate of the video data associated with each region of interest and with each region of disinterest, wherein the video data is stored in the memory according to the bitrate specified by the set of rules.

Krishnamurthy et al teach a set of rules stored in the memory (e.g. column 5, lines 17-23, the "importance map" is in the encoder, wherein, column 10, lines 15-24,

teaches the encoder is a software application stored in memory, wherein the importance map corresponds to a set of rules), the set of rules specifying at least one of i) multiple regions of interest within a single picture frame and ii) multiple regions of disinterest within the single picture frame (e.g. column 7, lines 30-59, a range of importance or significance value, representative of the degree of interest of a particular region), the set of rules dynamically varying a bitrate of the video data associated with each region of interest and with each region of disinterest, wherein the video data is stored in the memory according to the bitrate specified by the set of rules (e.g. column 6, lines 45-column 7, line 10, quantization is adjusted in accordance with the importance information received from the importance map generator 127 corresponds to dynamically varying a bit rate of the video data since quantization is an effective tool to control the encoder to match its output to a given bitrate, column 6, lines 13-44 teach the output of the encoder is connected to the FIFO buffer 190 corresponds to store video data in the memory according to the bitrate specified by the set of rule). It would have been obvious for one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Krishnamurthy et al into the teaching of Fiore et al to allocate the system resource efficiently since Krishnamurthy et al teach allocating processing resources in accordance with the importance information (Krishnamurthy et al, column 2, lines 24-30).

Claim 18 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 1 above with further limitation: a loop buffer also storing at least one of the audio data and the video data of the event, the loop buffer also storing at least one of time-delayed audio data

and time-delayed video data that precedes the event (Fiore et al teach in paragraph [0047] data is delay from the head of the circular storage to the tail of the circular storage); wherein the video recorder provides both real-time and time-delayed audio data and video data of the event (e.g. paragraph [0043], figure 2, monitoring device 6 is an monitoring sensors captures real-time video and audio data, and the circular storage provides a time-delayed audio and video data).

Claims 2 and 3 are rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 1 above.

Claims 4, 5, 6 and 7 are rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claim 18 above.

Regarding claims 12 and 13, Fiore et al teach interfacing with means fro sensing the event (e.g. paragraph [0049], event interface 21).

Regarding claims 14 and 19, Fiore et al teach communicating the contents of the loop buffer via a communications network (e.g. paragraph[0069]).

8. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fiore et al (US 2002/0,191,952 A1) and Krishnamurthy et al (US 6,917,719 B2) as applied to claims 1-7, 12-14,18 and 19.

See the teaching of Fiore et al and Krishnamurthy et al above.

Regarding claim 8, Fiore et al and Krishnamurthy et al fail to specify a mass-storage device. The examiner takes official notice for the mass-storage device since it is well known in the art. It would have been obvious for one ordinary skill in the art at the

time of the invention was made to have utilized a mass-storage to increase the storage capacity.

9. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fiore et al (US 2002/0,191,952 A1) and Krishnamurthy et al (US 6,917,719 B2) as applied to claims 1-7, 12-14,18 and 19.

See the teaching of Fiore et al and Krishnamurthy et al above.

Regarding claim 9, Fiore et al and Krishnamurthy et al fail to specify an optical storage device. The examiner takes official notice for the optical storage device since it is well known in the art. It would have been obvious for one ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have utilized a optical storage to increase the storage capacity.

10. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fiore et al (US 2002/0,191,952 A1) and Krishnamurthy et al (US 6,917,719 B2) as applied to claims 1-7, 12-14,18 and 19.

See the teaching of Fiore et al and Krishnamurthy et al above.

Regarding claim 10, Fiore et al and Krishnamurthy et al fail to specify an memory card. The examiner takes official notice for the memory card since it is well known in the art. It would have been obvious for one ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have utilized memory card to increase the storage capacity.

11. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fiore et al (US 2002/0,191,952 A1) and Krishnamurthy et al (US 6,917,719 B2) as applied to claims 1-7, 12-14,18 and 19.

See the teaching of Fiore et al and Krishnamurthy et al above.

Regarding claim 11, Fiore et al and Krishnamurthy et al fail to specify a flash memory storage device. The examiner takes official notice for the flash memory storage device since it is well known in the art. It would have been obvious for one ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have utilized flash memory to increase the storage capacity.

12. Claims 15, 16 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fiore et al (US 2002/0,191,952 A1) and Krishnamurthy et al (US 6,917,719 B2) as applied to claims 1-7, 12-14,18 and 19 and further in view of Chow et al (US 2002/0,069,317 A1).

See the teaching of Fiore et al and Krishnamurthy et al above.

Regarding claims 15, 16 and 19, Fiore et al and Krishnamurthy et al fail to teach tags the video data with metadata, the metadata providing a description of a rule that caused the video data to be stored in the memory. Chow et al teach tags the video data with metadata, the metadata providing a description of a rule that caused the video data to be stored in the memory (e.g. paragraph [0133]). It would have been obvious for one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the

teaching of Chow et al into the teaching of Fiore et al and Krishnamurthy et al to allow fast real-time data recording (Chow et al, paragraph [0133]).

13. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fiore et al (US 2002/0,191,952 A1) and Krishnamurthy et al (US 6,917,719 B2) as applied to claims 1-7, 12-14,18 and 19 and further in view of Nishioka et al (US 6,785,905 B1).

See the teaching of Fiore et al Krishnamurthy et al above.

Regarding claim 20, Fiore et al and Krishnamurthy et al fail to teach a user interface for configuring the video recorder. Nishioka et al teach a user interface for configuring the video recorder (e.g. column 6, lines 17-21). It would have been obvious for one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Nishioka et al into the teaching of Fiore et al and Krishnamurthy et al to allow users to find and add choose desired programs in fast and reliable manner (e.g. Nishioka et al, column 1, lines 41-47).

Conclusion

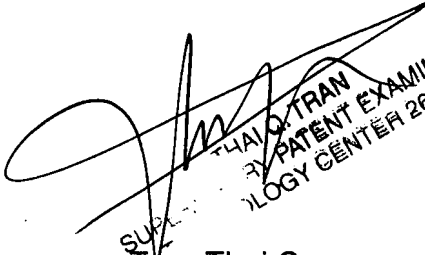
14. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Tam (US 2004/0,052,501 A1).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daquan Zhao whose telephone number is (571) 270-1119. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Fri. 7:30 -5, alt Fri. off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tran Thai Q, can be reached on (571)272-7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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